



Hampton's Distinguished Citizen Medal

Hampton's distinguished citizen medal is the highest honor that City Council may bestow on an individual, the approximate equivalent of a "key to the city."

Individuals recognized by this award have served Hampton in such an extraordinary way as to distinguish themselves from other individuals or have been recognized with a state, national or international award that brings honor and distinction to the City of Hampton.

The award, which dates back to 1964, is not given annually. It is awarded infrequently for outstanding achievements at the direction of the City Council.

Hampton's Distinguished Citizen Award recipients include:

Robert F. Shuford, Sr., Sept. 24, 2014

Chairman, President and CEO of Old Point National Bank, based in Hampton but expanded to a regional financial institution, who has also been a community leader in multiple board, fund-raising and volunteer capacities.

Francena McCorory, Sept. 12, 2012

Bethel High School and Hampton University graduate who won a Gold Medal in the Women's 4x400 Relay in the 2012 Summer Olympics held in London, England.

Hardy L. Cash, January 28, 2011

For over 60 years of service to the City of Hampton

Gwen Cumming and Will Moffett, January 26, 2011

Co-Chairmen - 400th Anniversary

Morton L. Olshan and Richard "Dick" Steinberg, ratified by Council on April 14, 2010

For years of service to Hampton in connection with Coliseum Mall, Peninsula Town Center, etc.

Dr. Mary T. Christian, January 14, 2007

For years of service to the community

Dr. Turner M. Spencer, July 9, 2006

For 20 years of service on the City Council, 1986 – 2006

Andrew D. Greenwell, November 13, 2002

For efforts in the dedication of the Ruppert L. Sargent Administration building dedication

Marketing & Outreach

22 Lincoln Street | Hampton, Virginia 23669
www.hampton.gov | P: (757) 727-8311

Mary E. Johnson, October 28, 2001

For outstanding Neighborhood Initiatives (restoration of the Little England Chapel, development of the Newtown Learning Center for neighborhood children; one of the first black principal in the City; commitment to her neighborhood; community activist)

Midge J. Eason, June 1, 1998

For outstanding support of City initiatives

James L. Eason, June 1, 1998

Mayor - July 1, 1982 - May 18, 1998

Michael L. Smith, March 3, 1997

Hampton High School Football Coach

Charles A. Wornom, July 17, 1996

Mayor and Councilman - July 1, 1967 - June 30, 1996 - 29 years

Hunter B. Andrews, approved 01/24/96

Senator, Virginia General Assembly, 1963-1995

T. Melvin Butler, June 28, 1994

Vice Mayor and Councilman - 16 years

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hunnicutt III, April 13, 1994

Co-Chairmen USS Hampton Commissioning Committee

Mr. & Mrs. Harrol A. Brauer Jr., January 22, 1986

Co-Chairmen - 375th Anniversary

Ann H. Kilgore, July 9, 1980

Mayor and Councilwoman - 21 years

Steve Riddick, October 10, 1976

Olympic Gold Medalist - Track

Justice C. Vernon Spratley, October 11, 1967

Town Attorney for the Town of Phoebus and the Town of Hampton; Judge of the 11th Judicial Circuit (Hampton, Phoebus, Elizabeth City County, and Newport News); retired from the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia. Served as Town Councilman - elected June 1907 with 35 votes

L. Eldon James, November 9, 1966

National Commander of the American Legion

Charles Flax, Hampton Institute

Director of the Hampton Crusaders Male Chorus

John R. “Captain Johnny” Lawson

Served as Councilmember: May 1, 1945 - June 30, 1952; and July 1, 1955 - June 30, 1961

Christopher Kraft, 6/23/64

NASA engineer and manager instrumental in establishing Mission Control operation. The Apollo 11 mission was flight director for all six of the manned Mercury missions.

Colonel Roy F. Zinzer, September 23, 1964

First Distinguished Citizen Award to Retiring Commander of Fort Monroe in recognition of meritorious service and outstanding achievement